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## DEIS Status

The preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is currently under internal review by the FHWA. Preparing the DEIS took a little longer than expected, so public distribution will not occur until late April or early May.

The FHWA currently plans to send the complete 250-page DEIS to agencies, organizations, and those individuals on the project mailing list that specifically request it. Others will receive the 25-page Summary.

Extra copies of the complete DEIS will be available at the East Side Highway District and at the Forest Service Office in Fernan. It also will be available electronically on the Western Federal Lands Highway Division website, or you can read it at the Coeur d'Alene Public Library.

## Project Website

The Fernan Lake Road project website is now available on the internet. The address is <http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/fernan/>. In addition to project information, you can update your address, provide comments, and request the full DEIS by going to Contact Information and clicking on the [quicknote contact form](#) link.

## History of Fernan Lake Road

Here are some interesting facts from the cultural resource studies concerning the history of Fernan Lake Road:

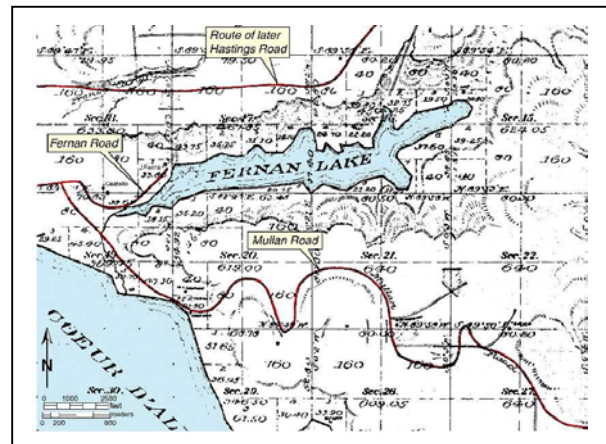
1883 – John Fernan was living next to a small lake that bore his name.

1893 – Branch road off Mullan Road went to John Fernan's house.

1903 – Road through French Canyon/Gulch went to William Kelly homestead along creek above lake.

1922 – Coeur d'Alene Highway District surveyed Road #650 that was to be known as Fernan Lake Highway.

1934 – Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and ERA-Works Progress Administration (WPA) crews began building a one-lane road on the current alignment of Fernan Lake Road.



1893 General Land Office Plat of Fernan Lake vicinity.

1937 – A wooden bridge was built across Lilypad Bay on timber pilings.

1940 – Fernan Lake Road neared completion with final construction focusing on rock cuts along the lake.

1960 – Curved road on fill at head of Lilypad Bay was planned to replace failing bridge.

1968 – Forest Service road survey listed first 4.7 miles as paved, with the remainder gravel, and the entire road as 1-½ lanes wide.

1978 – Most of road in the National Forest was resurfaced.



**A wooden bridge crossed Lilypad Bay for nearly 25 years.**

1978-1981 – East Side Highway District crews blasted and removed rock at four points along the lakeshore.

1995 – Fernan Lake Road was placed in the Forest Highway Program and designated ID PFH 80.

### **Project Team**

The project team consists of the East Side Highway District, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, and the Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal

Highway Administration. David Evans and Associates, Inc. is the lead consultant for the current planning and environmental evaluation phase of the project.

### **Public Interest and Support**

Thank you for your continuing support and interest in the Fernan Lake Road safety improvement project. Your comments on the project are always welcome. They will be added to those previously submitted on the project. Be sure to let us know if you want the complete DEIS instead of the 25-page Summary.

Please send your comments .....

- to the new project website,
- by email to [fernanlake@wfl.fha.dot.gov](mailto:fernanlake@wfl.fha.dot.gov)
- by phone to Sajid Aftab, Project Manager, at 360-619-7700, or
- mail them to Mr. Aftab at FHWA's return address



### **Federal Highway Administration**

Western Federal Lands Highway Division

610 East Fifth Street

Vancouver, WA 98661-3801